

# SUP News

35c Per Copy

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL SOCIETY, SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

*Preservation of Utah's Pioneer Heritage in all areas: arts, crafts, skills, scenic, recreational, cultural, historic sites, trails, and landmarks.*

Volume 7

JULY-AUGUST 1960

No. 4





# **THE state of the nation ...in education**

This fall, more than 250,000 students will attend Utah's schools, colleges and universities. These young people can look to the future with confidence, because they will receive their schooling in a state dedicated to attaining the highest possible standard of education.

Utahns have a traditional desire for education. Our state is number one nationally in the number of school years completed by the adult population, number one in percentage of population completing four years of high school, and number three in percentage of population completing four years of college. This has produced an educational system widely acclaimed as being well above the national average.

Major obstacles have been conquered to achieve this enviable standing. We are far from being a rich state. Utah's personal income is smaller than 33 other states—yet we must meet an exceptional cost problem, because, proportionately, we have more students attending public schools than any other state.

Utah has gained its high standing through a combination of two factors. (1) It has developed an efficient educational system. (2) Perhaps even more significant, only one state spends a higher percentage of personal income for education.

Utah is truly **THE** state of the nation in education.

Those who are part of this year's back-to-school movement can be thankful that the businesses and people of the Beehive State are able to make the financial contribution needed to make good education available to all.



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# 1960 ENCAMPMENT SUCCESS IN SALT LAKE

By T. Mack Woolley

The National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers Annual Encampment was held in Salt Lake City at the National Headquarters of the Society at Pioneer Village, 2998 Connor Street on August 5, 6 and 7, 1960. The host chapters were the eight SUP Chapters from this area, namely, Salt Lake Luncheon Club, Sugar House, Holladay, East Mill Creek, Pioneer, Temple Quarry, Over Jordan and the Howard Egan Pony Express. The writer has attended every National Encampment since 1950 and this was one of the most outstanding encampments he ever attended. The chairman of this encampment, Henry S. Florence, with his committee consisting of Horace A. Sorensen, Curtis Brady, Karl H. Hale, Clifford Davis, Harold H. Jenson, Tanner Brown, George Quist and Grant Hale really did a very good job of arranging for our meals, lodgings, transportation, etc. In fact, the Saturday morning breakfast catered by the Holladay Chapter of the SUP was really a gem. We had hot cakes, sausage, ham, bacon, eggs, cantaloupe, sweet rolls, milk and other drinks all for the sum of \$2.00 and it was served and cooked by people that really knew their business. Of course, the Holladay Chapter's leading man was their President Henry Florence, but if it had not been for the wonderful committee from

his chapter consisting of Jean Larson, Scott Beazer, Joe McDonald, Carl Merrill, Ed Martindale, Rex Moss and Mrs. Rex Moss, who decorated the tables, the breakfast could not have been such a huge success.

Our business meetings were held in the Administration Building. The first meeting was called at 8:30 for the purpose of passing on the rules and order of business for the 1960 encampment. There were twenty rules passed on and they were followed out very well. The next was the meeting qualifying delegates. The following chapters sent delegates: George A. Smith Chapter one, B.Y.U. Chapter three, California Chapter one, Temple Quarry Chapter three, Temple Fork Chapter seven, Cedar City Chapter three, Golden Spike Chapter two, Holladay Chapter four, Old Juniper Chapter two, Pioneer Chapter four, Sugar House Chapter seven, Salt Lake Luncheon Club Chapter fourteen, Ogden Pioneer Luncheon Club five, Dixie Mission Chapter four, Lehi Chapter two, East Mill Creek Chapter four. There were several chapters that did not have delegates at our meeting and most of those that did have were entitled to more.

You all know this does not make for the best encampment when chapters do not participate in them, so next year the first part of September let's all get together at St. George and have a fine encampment and a good time.

Our business meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Earl A. Hansen. Mr. Hansen introduced Henry

Florence and his encampment committee and thanked them for a big job well done, thus far. Our Treasurer, Ronald L. Kingsbury then read the financial report of the SUP and also the Pioneer Village and the Railroad Village. These reports will be found in this issue of the magazine. Mr. Horace A. Sorensen then gave a report on the two villages and stated that they were now on their own feet and doing very well. He did ask for members and their wives to help with the guiding. He also thanked those of the membership who had helped do this work the past year.

President Hansen then thanked the officers for their loyal support of him and the SUP for the past year.

Milton V. Backman, our Judge Advocate, then presented some changes for our articles of incorporation. They were as follows: that the numbers should be dropped from the vice presidents and that the vice presidents be increased from five in number to seven. The motions passed unanimously. The making of a chapter of the Mormon Battalion was talked against by some members of the Battalion. After some discussion this matter was tabled by a unanimous vote.

Karl B. Hale, Chairman of the nominating committee, made his report and read the names of the candidates for our officers for the coming year. As there were no nominations from the floor, the ballot was accepted by the delegates as

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Arthur W. Grix, Ogden, new SUP President



D. Crawford Houston, Salt Lake City, reelected Vice President for another year.



Dr. Vasco M. Tanner of Provo begins his third year as an SUP Vice President.

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## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Earl A. Hansen .....Logan  
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Awards Committee Chairman with Wm.

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## ENCAMPMENT, From Page 3

made by the nominating committee. President Hansen appointed Jesse Rich, Sheldon Brewster and Parson Webster as the balloting committee and the voting took place. Your new officers are listed elsewhere in this issue of your magazine.

It was voted to have our encampment at St. George, Utah, next year, as 1961 is St. George's Centennial year. The date to be the week end of Labor Day.

It would be my suggestion to the many chapters to start now to plan for the 1961 encampment at St. George and if Mr. V. R. Leany, our encampment chairman, has your support I know we will have a very fine encampment. As you know this year we had a wonderful program outlined and everything went along just fine. The only thing we lacked were PEOPLE, so please let us not let our committees down next year.

## NATIONAL SUP ELECTS GRIX TO HEAD ORGAN- IZATION FOR 1960-61

Sons of Utah Pioneers elected Arthur Grix, long time member of the Ogden Pioneer Luncheon Club, as National President for 1960-1961. The annual election of officers took place at the business meeting of the organization Saturday, August 6th. Delegates elected Mr. Grix unanimously, and then proceeded to ballot for seven Vice Presidents.

Elected to serve with President Grix were D. Crawford Houston, Salt Lake City; Vasco M. Tanner, Provo; V. R. Leany, St. George; Aubrey Turley, Garland; Franklin B. McKean, Salt Lake City; Vern B. Muir, Logan, and Elias A. Dawson, Layton. Dr. Carl J. Christensen, Life Membership Committee.

Arthur W. Grix was born March the 5th, 1895 in Ogden, Utah. He is the son of Lamoni Grix, pioneer merchant of Ogden. His mother was Sarah Lawson, daughter of Joseph and Ruth Greenway Lawson, who came to Utah in early days from the Isle of Mann and Wales, respectively, and were married in Ogden September 9th, 1855.

His paternal grandparents Jonathan and Sarah Florence Grix joined the L.D.S. Church in England and arrived in Ogden October 16th, 1869.

Art received his education in Utah and California schools, and taught for two years in the old Weber Academy.

In 1915, 1916 and 1917, he filled a mission in California under President Joseph E. Robinson.

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V. R. Leany will represent St. George and Southern Utah as a National Vice President this year.



Aubrey Turley, new Vice President from Box Elder County, hails from Garland, Utah.



Vern B. Muir, Logan postmaster, will represent Cache Valley during the coming year.





**OFFICERS, From Page 4**

He was married to Violet Hall in 1921 in the Salt Lake Temple. She passed away April the 5th, 1959. They have three living daughters: Helen, Mrs. B. H. Plowgian, Ogden, Utah; Lorna, Mrs. D. S. Salisbury, Palos Verdes Estates, California; and Geraldine, Mrs. Neil C. Farr, South Weymouth, Mass. Their fourth daughter, Maxine, passed away while the family was living in California in 1931. There are seven grandchildren.

Art has been employed by the U. S. Forest Service, Bureau of Public Roads, and in the Engineering and Architectural departments of the Southern Pacific Railroad Co. in Ogden and San Francisco.

After 27 years of service, Art left the railroad and established a business of his own, which grew and is now the firm of Grix, Plowgian and Blackburn, Architects and Engineers, Ogden, Utah.

He is the President of Grix and Starley Investment Company, and is an energetic civic and church worker. At present, he is instructor of the High Priest Class of the Ogden 55th Ward. He has been the counselor in the Bishopric of the Elmhurst Ward in Oakland, California, and the Ogden 15th Ward. He was Superintendent of the M.I.A. in the Berkeley Ward in California, and was Superintendent of the Sunday School of the Ogden 2nd Ward. He has been president several times of the Joseph E. Robinson California Mission Society. He was in the Farr West Stake Sunday School Superintendency for ten years, the last three of which he was the Stake Superintendent.

He has held most of the offices in the Ogden Chapter of the American Associa-

tion of Engineers, and is past president of the Ogden Engineers Club.

He is past president of the Debonair's Dancing Club of Ogden, and is a member of the Ogden Kiwanis Club. He is now a member and past president of the Ogden Pioneer Luncheon Club.

In recent years he and his wife made trips to practically every state in the Union, including Hawaii and Alaska. They were present at the dedication of the Mormon Pioneer Memorial Bridge in Omaha. In 1955 they attended the choir tour of Europe, and then toured Southern Europe on their own, in all taking in 14 countries.

Our new Vice Presidents all come from active ancestors and have distinguished themselves in their respective fields of business. Each has been active in church and civic affairs. Complete biographies of these men will appear in the SUP News during the coming year.

### SUP PRESENTS NEW ANNUAL AWARDS TO MEMBERS, CHAPTER

By T. Mack Woolley

This year we have a new activity in our National Organization called the Awards Committee; it consists of three members who are appointed by the President. This year the committee consisted of Earl S. Paul, chairman, and O. Whitney Young and William E. Nelson as members of the committee. This committee contacts each chapter president to secure names of their chapter members

See **AWARDS, Page 8**



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# Dr. Joseph F. Merrill

By RICHARD R. LYMAN

## PART II

This article was begun in the last issue of the SUP News. It was written by Dr. Lyman in 1952.

Having been graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in the Class of '93 at the University of Michigan and also having been employed as Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the University of Utah, this wise, able and ambitious young man went on to Cornell University and there devoted the summer of 1893 to perfecting himself for this new position. And his fondness for learning and progress were so great that he spent the summers of '94 and '96 as a diligent student at the University of Chicago and in the fall of '96 he began his work in that great, yes, one of the greatest of all Graduate Schools, Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, and spent the school year '96-'97 and also the summer of '97 in that advanced educational institution.

On the 12th of September that fall, 1897, I had been selected and set apart as Stake Superintendent of the YMMIA of Salt Lake Stake by President Angus M. Cannon. That Stake then covered all of Salt Lake County. When Pres. Cannon asked whom I wanted for my Assistant Superintendents, I said: "Joseph F. Merrill for my first assistant."

"Who is he and where is he?" asked Pres. Cannon.

I replied: "He is a son of Elder Mariner W. Merrill of the Council of Twelve and for a little more than a year he has been a student in that great graduate school — Johns Hopkins University."

"My goodness, my brother, he may have left the Church!" exclaimed Pres. Cannon.

"No, he has not, President Cannon; he is my bosom friend, I *know* the man!" And no one ever spoke a more certain truth. When coming home on the train that fall, after an absence of 15 months, Joseph F. Merrill read in the paper that I had been made Stake Superintendent of the YMMIA and he said, "No one ever saw anything more clearly or knew anything more positively than I knew, Richard, that I would be one of your Assistant Superintendents." Ours have always been "two hearts that beat as one." He has always been my leader. I might appropriately have said to him at any time of my life: "I need thee every hour!" He was indeed a wise and powerful man.

In his active mind the idea was originated of giving the Sundays of fast-days



The Joseph F. Merrill Engineering Building on the University of Utah campus.

to the MIA. The people were partaking of the sacrament three times on fast-days, in Sunday School in the morning, in Fast meeting in the afternoon and in the regular Sacrament meeting in the evening. The appeal was made to Pres. Cannon to let the MIA have the Sunday evening of fast day to give those reaching the marriageable age an opportunity to associate together. To give them experience in preparing programs, in presiding in meetings, in delivering addresses, in furnishing vocal and instrumental musical selections — in short to give to our young people the best possible training for doing service in the mission field. Pres. Cannon, realizing that training young folks for missionary work is of the utmost importance took the matter up with his high council, with the result that the request was granted and the idea proved to be such an excellent one that soon it was adopted in all the stakes and missions of the Church.

Another of his good ideas was conducting a series of oratorical contests in the wards and the final contest in the stake. The Park Jewelry Company gave the MIA a handsome silver trophy on which to carve the names of the final winners year after year, but interest has lagged and the trophy, it seems, is lost.

This unusual man was made Professor of Physics and Physical Chemistry in 1897 and also Director of the School of Mines

and Engineering at the University of Utah. In the spring of 1898 he married Annie Laura Hyde and having been chosen "Fellow in Physics" by Johns Hopkins University, he and his bride went to Baltimore for that school year. In June, 1899, Joseph F. Merrill had conferred upon him two great honors by that great graduate school — one the Doctor of Philosophy degree and the other election to membership in that exclusive honorary fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa. This, I believe, is the highest scholastic honor that has come to any product of the State of Utah or of the LDS Church.

Under the leadership of Dr. Merrill as Director of the Utah State School of Mines and Engineering, the institution grew from one four year course called Mining Engineering with three teachers, to include four year courses in Electrical, Civil, Mechanical, Geological and Chemical Engineering with a faculty of 12 teachers, 47 graduates receiving Engineering degrees in one year and an engineering enrollment of 411. He was a natural and efficient executive. He encouraged his associates to follow his example and do advanced graduate work in the leading schools of the country. And for so doing, he arranged financial and other conditions as liberal as possible for his associates. He was extremely modest concerning his own ability and accomplishments, but took great pleasure in seeing his associates develop. The stronger and bigger and

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**MERRILL, From Page 6**

better they became, the more he was proud and pleased. He organized the Utah Engineering Experiment Station and was one of the very first in the whole country to arrange a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Bureau of Mines for doing work of research and investigation, thus bringing a strong U. S. Agency to the University campus. This far seeing man "advanced the mining industry of the State by vigorous research", said J. Bruce Clemmer, Chief, Metallurgical Division U. S. Bureau of Mines, "when the need for such research was appreciated by few." This same pattern of cooperation with other Universities has been followed in founding most of the other U. S. Stations. The Director says: "For purposeful planning and clear vision, Dr. Merrill will be long esteemed by us." The wonder has been expressed how Dr. Merrill could develop a school which ranked among the highest 25% of Engineering Colleges on a budget which was among the lowest 25%. Many graduates of this school hold high and important positions in the engineering profession. At one time a majority of the directors of the Bureau of Mines were graduates of the University.

The following named three bills written by Dr. Merrill were enacted into law by the legislature without the slightest amendment:

1. Establishing the State School of Mines in 1901.
2. Establishing the Utah Engineering Experiment Station in 1909.
3. Establishing a Department of Mining and Metallurgical Research with a biennial appropriation of \$15,000.00. Six graduate fellowships of \$750.00 each per year were to be paid out of this fund.

When the question of consolidating the University and Agricultural College was being considered by a committee of the legislature and Dr. Merrill, without any notes or references, could answer technical questions about the College much more readily than could Wm. J. Kerr, the President of the College, without referring to notes, Richard W. Young,

a University Regent exclaimed: "Isn't he a wheel horse! Did you ever see such a memory, such a powerful intellect!"

Dr. Merrill laid a foundation for the School of Mines and Engineering of such excellence that his successors Dean Richard B. Ketchum and the present Dean A. LeRoy Taylor have built a School from which 200 are being graduated annually, the members of the faculty number 50 and the enrollment is 1200. Dean Taylor was not only thoroughly trained in Electrical Engineering by Dr. Merrill, but Dr. Merrill, in a way, trained him for the Deanship and recommended strongly that he be given his present position as Dean.

And the work of this school and its influence are not confined to the 1200 registered students. Much of its work exerts an influence far beyond the campus. Two outstanding examples must be mentioned. First, the Annual Municipal Water & Sewage Works School which was conducted on the campus covering a period of three days. The speakers and presiding officers, numbering 27, came from many engineering activities of Utah and two of the speakers came from San Francisco. Secondly, must be mentioned the Annual Highway Engineering Conference and Road Show. This, another great educational effort, covered a period also of three days in which the presiding officers and speakers to the number of 28 came not only from various activities in Utah, but from Los Angeles, Chicago, Denver, Milwaukee, Boise, Santa Fe, Cheyenne, Aurora, Illinois and Washington, D. C.

Some have thought it strange for Dr. Merrill to give up his dignified and important work as Dean of the great School of Mines and Engineering in order to be Superintendent of the Church School System. But those having such a thought did not realize that this gave to Dr. Merrill one of the greatest and, to him, one of the most precious opportunities of his life which was to develop more fully and genuinely inspired plan for religious education which came to him while he was in the Presidency of the Granite Stake. With his clear and inspired vision he saw that religious education can be given in a

religious seminary near a public high school to eight students for what it costs to give the same religious training to one student in a Church School. Forty years ago, in 1912, under his direction the first Church Seminary was established near the Granite High School. That Seminary alone now gives religious instruction to more than a thousand students, there are 131 other seminaries located near public high schools and 16 Institutes giving religious training and education to the LDS students in that many different colleges. The aim is to establish a Seminary or an Institute near every High School or College which has 100 or more LDS students in attendance. Do you wonder that Dr. Merrill was thrilled with the thought of having an opportunity to help in the development of this mighty Church Education System which real inspiration has led him to inaugurate!

And there is perhaps no better illustration of the breadth of view and the high scholastic ideals of Dr. Merrill than the results of his efforts as superintendent of Church Schools. He proceeded in accordance with the two great fundamental doctrines of the Church. One, "The glory of God is intelligence", and the other the instruction to "seek learning even by study and also by faith."

As already stated the many in the University of Utah who were encouraged and assisted by him to do advanced graduate work refer with pride and repeatedly to the great debt of gratitude they owe to this truly great man. Then ask any of the following named workers in the Church and the Church School System what Dr. Merrill did for them and they will express great admiration for his vision and inspiration, and gratitude to him for his help and encouragement: Dr. Sidney B. Sperry, Dr. Russel B. Swensen, Dr. Daryl Chase, Dr. Wesley P. Lloyd, Dr. Heber C. Snell, Dr. Anthony Cannon, Dr. Carl Furr, Dr. Vernon Larsen, Dr. Thomas C. Romney, Professor George S. Tanner, Dr. T. Edgar Lyon, Professor John D. Lillywhite, Supt. H. Grant Vest, President George S. Romney of the Northern States Mission located at Chicago at the time of his death. All of these scholarly men are products of the efforts, the ideals and the inspiration of Joseph F. Merrill. Find, if you can anywhere, either in our own country or abroad, any man who can claim as his products such an array of doctors of philosophy as can this modest but marvelous man and scholar, Joseph F. Merrill.

*(To be continued)*

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**From JAMES H. MILLER**

**AWARDS, From Page 5**

who are outstanding in their Church, civic affairs, SUP and other accomplishments. The committee then goes over these qualifications and chooses someone for the following citations:

One individual award

One chapter award

One man and wife award

One special award for those to whom awards have been previously given.

Chapter presidents did not do a very good job on this activity this year as the award committee received very few answers to their questionnaires sent out well in advance of the National Encampment.

Awards for this year were as follows:

Individual award went to Mr. Leo J. Muir of the California Chapter at Los Angeles for his great work in SUP writing, education, civic endeavors, etc. He received a life membership for his award.

The chapter award went to the Temple Fork Chapter at Logan, Utah, for their continued growth and the great percentage of membership and their partners at our encampment. They received a very beautiful fifty star silk American Flag and flag stand to display at their chapter meetings.

The man and wife award went to our former outstanding Secretary, Clarence A. Reeder, Jr. and his lovely wife Roslyn. A couple well deserving of this honor. They received a very nice camera picture slide case.

Chapter presidents are urged to send their questionnaire on these various awards for next year in at an early date. Give your committee a break and send in your candidates for each of these awards, giving a history of each. Your committee next year will be O. Whitney Young, chairman, with William E. Nelson and Earl S. Paul as members.

If we get behind this fine movement, we can really make a wonderful thing of it, as only members of the SUP can qualify for these awards; except the couple award, and then the man must be a member of some chapter or a member at large.

**OFFICERS APPOINTED TO EXECUTIVE BOARD**

At a meeting of the elected officers of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers held at the headquarters of the Society, 2998 Connor St., Salt Lake City, Utah, Wednesday, August 24, 1960, the following officers of the National Society were appointed:

Horace A. Sorensen, of Salt Lake City, managing director of SUP Villages; Fred E. H. Curtis, of Salt Lake City, Commanding General of the Mormon Battalion; Clarence A. Reeder, Jr., of Bountiful, editor SUP News; Eldred H. Erickson, of Ogden, Treasurer and Finance Committee Chairman; Gaylen S. Young, Sr., of Salt Lake City, Judge Advocate; George A. Parry, of Salt Lake City, Chaplain; Milton V. Backman, of Salt Lake City, Pioneer Village Citizenship and Public Relations; Ira N. Hayward, of Logan, Pioneer Stories; O. Whitney Young, of Ogden, Awards Committee Chairman; D. James Cannon, of Salt Lake City, Utah State Parks, Trails and Landmarks; Arnold R. Standing, of Ogden, Treks; T. Mack Woolley, of Salt Lake City, Executive Secretary; James H. Miller of Brigham City was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Jay B. Hunt on the Life Membership Committee, Mr. Hunt having moved to Flagstaff, Arizona.



Dr. Carl J. Christensen elected to Life Membership Committee (5 year term).

**Pres. Leo J. Muir Offers Prayer at Demo Convention**

Pres. Leo J. Muir, first president of South Los Angeles Stake, eminent LDS scholar, biographer and educator, and past president of the California Chapter SUP, gave the prayer at the closing session of the Democratic National Convention, Friday night, July 15.

Pres. Muir was one of ten prominent Los Angeles Churchmen to offer prayers at convention sessions.

**SUP MEMBER ADVANCES IN BANK JOB**

Commercial Security Bank directors have promoted Rulon F. Starley to senior vice president.

A native of Fillmore, Millard County, Mr. Starley began his banking career in 1922.

He was Utah State bank commissioner for 10 years.

Mr. Starley organized Commercial Security's real estate loan department in 1950. One of his notable jobs was the handling of the 18 million dollar Washington Terrace residential redevelopment.

**HAROLD BENNION DIES**

Harold Bennion 56, church worker, died Thursday at 10:14 p.m. following an operation in a Salt Lake hospital.

He was an active member of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, and belonged to the Holladay Lions Club. He was a graduate of the University of Utah and attended Granite High School. Mr. Bennion had worked for the Mountain States Casket Company.

Mr. Bennion completed a mission to the Central States, 1923 to 1926, for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was a member of the bishopric of the Holladay Second Ward for seven years, assistant Sunday School superintendent, counselor and secretary to the Stake Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association, in the Cottonwood Stake, and worked in the scouting program.

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Franklin L. McKean will serve as Vice President and Membership Chairman in 1960-61.



Elias A. Dawson represents Layton and the Ogden area as SUP National Vice President.



Past President Earl A. Hansen will advise officers during coming year.

## PRAIRIE WINDS

Blow softly prairie winds,  
for the warm sands may be  
a shallow grave of a small one  
left there by saddened parents.  
So disturb it not prairie winds.  
Perhaps they left  
a corner of their hearts.  
Listen to their mournful lullaby  
that lingers still.  
Don't drown it out  
with thy voice prairie winds.

Blow softly prairie winds.  
I sense many voices  
beneath thy flight—  
faint gay sounds of singing  
by the moonlight camp-fire.  
Hush, hush, and join in too.  
Travel lightly through the washes  
and gulleys, prairie winds.  
Let thy journey carry no sting  
to the starving Brave  
lying by his dead pony.  
Blow him gently, gently,  
to his Happy Hunting Ground.

Blow softly prairie winds,  
so secrets can be kept.  
Try to understand  
and then you will blow softly,  
oh so softly prairie winds.  
—Robert B. Fox

## Sagebrush

To a westerner who has been absent from home for some time in other parts of the world, there is probably nothing missed so much, nothing that makes him realize that he is home again, as the sight and smell of sagebrush. At the first opportunity, he grabs a handful and squeezes it affectionately and as the fragrant, pungent aroma reaches his nostrils, he knows that he is really home. At night as he is seated at his campfire, the aromatic odor of sagebrush smoke makes him draw a deep breath and say to himself, "my, but it is good to be home again."

As he stands upon a hill and looks over a valley covered with this western plant, he is inspired. Close at his feet, the prevailing color is a greenish tinge of gray. A little further away the gray changes to a haze of light blue. Then at a distance, the haze changes to a purplish gray, and then to a beautiful hazy garnet in the far distance against the mountains.

He stands almost transfixed by the changing hues made by the sunshine on the sagebrush. He knows now probably for the first time, that he is home and that there is no other place on earth that holds him so firmly in its loving, friendly arms as the sage-brush covered west.

James H. Miller

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## SUP PROFILES

### ROBERT A. BERRY

(From Provo Sunday Herald, Sept. 27, 1959)  
By KATHRYN D. GROESBECK

Though most of his life is entwined in the decades that have passed, Robert Albert Berry of Provo, now in his 92nd year, isn't headed for the old rocking chair and oblivion at the present time. Far from it. Very much alert to the times and wiser than many, he believes there's still a lot of good living ahead for him with some joys (and maybe heartaches) and laughter.

No one should know better than he for Mr. Berry has done a heap of living in his 92 years. If he has any luck, he says, he'll reach the century mark as some others of his family have done.

He has been really sick only once and that was when he was 90. Not too concerned about that sickness, he said, "Guess it was just something I ate."



ROBERT ALBERT BERRY

#### Full Life

At various times during that long span of 92 years Robert Berry has weeded gardens and thinned carrots down in Harmony and Kanarrville for the United Order; herded cattle and horses in Bryce Canyon and at Cedar Breaks and on the Escalante desert, always trying to perfect his skill as a roper whenever possible; faced family sorrow dealt by Indians, yet

always respected the rights of the red man; found time for study at school between hours of herding; traveled the unknown wastes of southern Utah and Arizona; learned long ago the treachery of the Colorado River; helped carry the United States mail between some of the southern settlements; watched those people go through the Hole-in-the-Rock, friends from his locality who were to be travel-weary before they reached the present site of Bluff; fulfilled missions for the Latter-day Saints Church in South Carolina, Arizona, and New Mexico; known all the presidents of his church, except Joseph Smith and knew John D. Lee and "the old Indian man, Jacob Hamblin" great peacemaker, and Porter Rockwell with his long black hair. ("I was always afraid of him. He was Brigham Young's body guard, you know.") He toured Old Mexico and Canada just to see what the country is like today; and not the least in importance, proved himself a devoted husband to four different women at four different times and proved himself a devoted father.

Today he lives alone in his home in Provo, ever hospitable and happy to share the legends of his lifetime.

#### Humor Emerges

When Mr. Berry was asked about his past by this writer, he smiled and said with a twinkle in his eye "Shall I tell you about all the melon patches I've been in that I shouldn't have?"

Then after a pause he added, "To tell you the truth, I never did get into one. Once I tried with some other boys; but when an apple fell on my head as we hovered under a tree for concealment, I was so scared I thought the old man who owned the patch of melons was after me. I lit out as fast as I could go and so did all the others, all of us thinking the old man was at our heels. I guess each of us was after one of the others."

Robert A. Berry was born May 16, 1867. "And I was born in three counties," he said.

#### 'Born in Three Counties'

When he faced a questioning glance, he explained, "I'll tell you about that point. First I was born in Iron County. After a little bit that place where I was born became part of Kane County. Then when the true survey was made it was part of Washington. So you see, I was born in three counties."

Most of the time history fails to tell

about incidents in the lives of pioneer Mormons, among whom in southern Utah were the family and relatives of Robert Berry, courageous folks, who faced the wilderness wilds and the Indians.

Before Mr. Berry's birth two of his uncles and one aunt were cruelly murdered by red men at Short Creek in April, 1866.

When the peace treaty was finally signed, the Indians had agreed not to kill or steal the white man's cattle and horses if the whites did not kill the Indians' deer and rabbits.

Mr. Berry's father held firmly to the agreement, never permitting his children to kill a rabbit or a deer.

"And," said Robert Berry, "even to this day I have never killed either."

#### Joined United Order

In 1874 Mr. Berry's father and his family joined the United Order with all performing their assigned duties in the communal organization. When the young people finished their rows of weeding gardens or thinning out vegetable plants, their overseer, John Davis, called all together for a song. He was not only a good gardener, but a believer in the theory that a rest period with a song helped to maintain the efficiency of the young workers. He also found time after work to teach the young boys to wrestle and foot race.

Many of the childhood days of Robert Berry were spent in the scenic country of Bryce Canyon, Cedar Breaks, and Navajo Lake, not as one on a tour of the beautiful country of Southern Utah to view its splendors, but as a herder of cattle and horses. At one time he helped herd over 10,000 animals in the area for the United Order. His tales of the country are endless.

#### In Cedar Breaks

Once while herding with a few others near Navajo Lake, there was so much



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snow they had to take to the high mountains on the top of Cedar Breaks. There they found food for their animals where the strong winds had cleared the land of snow.

"Getting cattle out of Bryce Canyon was not too difficult," said Mr. Berry. "The men would go down to the edge of the valley and sick the dogs on three or four cows with calves. They'd start to belch and all the cattle would come out to help those cows protect their calves.

"On one occasion," he said, "we started with 300 head of horses and 200 head of cattle for Arizona. When we reached Lee's Ferry, it was Christmas Day and plenty cold. We had little or no trouble getting the horses to swim across the Colorado River, but the cattle refused to go into the cold water. We finally had to ferry them across, about 30 at a time."

#### *Filled Mission*

Shortly after Mr. Berry's marriage to Harriet Aldred, he filled a mission for his church in South Carolina.

"I was in the South," he said, "when a mob took two of our elders, one of whom hadn't been there 24 hours, and marched them 30 miles without anything to eat or drink. Then after guarding their captives all night in a wooded area, they undressed these boys, bent them over a log and gave them 20 lashes with a buggy tug. Afterwards, they took them to a railroad station and said, 'Git for Utah! Come here again and we'll kill you!' They backed their words with guns.

"I was never shot at, but I've looked down the barrel of a pointed gun. My sick companion and I were protected by the man who owned the house where we stayed. His name was William Sloane."

#### *No Wars*

When asked if he had ever carried a gun in war, Mr. Berry replied, "My great-grandfather was a veteran of 1776. My grandfather was in the Mexican War. But about the only kind of war I ever participated in was a mock war with papooses when I was a child down in southern Utah."

Today, though graying — he once had brown hair and red whiskers — Robert A. Berry stands six feet tall and weighs 175 pounds.

And everybody will agree that Mr. Berry is far from inactive. He is a most amazing man.

When Tuesday night rolls around he dons his Sunday-best attire and steps out to the dance.

"Maybe I'll dance just 13 or 15 dances now. I used to dance 20 times in one evening," he said with a smile. "And I never fail to attend. Wasn't I one of those that voted that all over 90 years could attend free?"

## BYU TO HOLD CLASS AT EDUCATION CENTER

Beginning Guitar and Folk Music will be taught at the Brigham Young University Adult Education Center, 200 North Main Street, Autumn Quarter, by Owen Clark. The class was announced by Dr. Lynn M. Hilton, Chairman of the Center.

The course, sponsored by the College of Fine Arts, will offer a theoretical and academic approach to the guitar as an art medium and to folk music as an historical form of musical expression. Selections will be studied through an interpretation of their historical, functional, and cultural significance, Dr. Hilton said.

Students will also learn the basic guitar chords, how to tune their instruments, how to hold them, and sitting positions. As far as possible, each student will play and receive the instructor's comments at every class meeting. There will be considerable group playing and singing.

Owen Clark was graduated from Brigham

## BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Lyman Tyler has succeeded Dr. Vasco M. Tanner as President of the Brigham Young Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers for the coming year. He will be assisted by the following officers: 1st Vice President, J. J. Weight; 2nd Vice President, Byron Done; Secretary-Treasurer, Lawson Hamblin, and the Board of Directors: Bill Snell, Lloyd Hobbs, Asael Fisher, and Vasco M. Tanner.

Dr. Tanner, retiring President of the BYU faculty chapter, along with the officers that served with him these past two years, have more than doubled the size of the chapter and have initiated an active and stimulating program. A special word of appreciation is due to Evan M. Croft who has faithfully and conscientiously performed the duties of chapter secretary and treasurer.

Best wishes to these new officers. It is hoped that they may continue the work that has been so well done in the past.

Young University and is the author of "The Guitar Goes to College," Dr. Hilton said. The class will meet on Saturday mornings from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The tuition for the ten lectures will be \$12.00.

## VERL G. DIXON Republican Candidate for Secretary of State

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SEPTEMBER 13th

Mr. Dixon is well qualified by experience, background and integrity to merit your support.  
His experience includes:

- One term as Utah County Clerk in 1946.
- Eight years as Utah County Commissioner.
- Past President of the Utah State Association of County Officials.
- Commander American Legion in Provo.
- Secretary and Treasurer of the Eldred Sunset Manor Foundation where he was responsible for more than one million dollars in construction of a new hospital in Provo.
- He is serving on the Board of Directors of the Boy Scouts and Red Cross in his area.
- Past Vice President and board member of the SUP and is a Captain in the Mormon Battalion.

Mr. Dixon, a descendant of stalwart Utah Pioneer grandparents, was born and raised in Utah valley. He graduated from the B.Y.U. and still lives in Provo with his wife and three daughters. He is active in the L.D.S. Church having served a mission to Europe and being presently in the Provo 3rd Ward Bishopric. He served overseas as an Air Force pilot in World War II. Your support will be appreciated in the . . .

PRIMARY ELECTION, SEPTEMBER 13th

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## California SUP Presents Desk to Pioneer Village

At recent ceremonies Wallace R. Reid, representing Burton M. Oliver, president of the California Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, officially presented a unique post office desk to Horace A. Sorensen, managing director of the Sons of Utah Pioneers Pioneer Village.

Since the founding of the famed Pioneer Village in Salt Lake City, California Sons of Utah Pioneers have been seeking some valued historical treasure of the Utah-California era to present to the institution.

Recently, such a treasure was found—a desk post office used by the U. S. Postal Service during Pony Express Days. The desk is a magnificent piece of cabinet making. It stands seven feet high, is more than five feet wide, weighs 400 pounds.

The large doors swing open from the middle. Inside of these doors are many small boxes for mail. The body of the desk contains needed compartments for the business of the office, and a writing desk for the postmaster.

It is reported that only seven of these desk post offices were used on the Pony Express route — probably at points where population was small. One is now in the Ford Museum at Dearborn, Mich. Another is at the Rockefeller Foundation, New York City.

This desk post office came to the California Sons from a son of Utah Pioneer, Charles L. Shepherd, who resides in Los Angeles. He purchased it in Pueblo, Colorado, several years ago, and has kept it at his home, hoping that it could some day be placed in some museum featuring western American history. Mr. Shepherd is a popular musician in this city, a member of the famed Shepherd family of musicians in Paris, Idaho.



Clarence A. Reeder, Jr. (left) examines unique postal desk that has recently been presented to Pioneer Village. Representing President Burton M. Oliver of the California Chapter is Mr. and Mrs. Wallace R. Reid of Los Angeles.

Funds to purchase this post office and deliver it to Pioneer Village are being solicited from California members of SUP, and others who are eligible, but not yet holding membership in this organization.

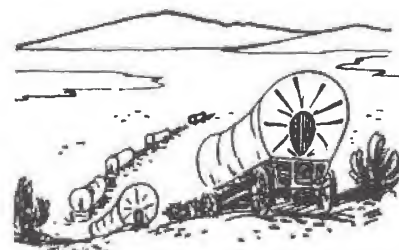
Applicants are eligible if they had at least one ancestor (either male or female) who came to, or was born in Utah before May 10, 1869.

In charge of fund-raising for the project is Burton M. Oliver, high councilman in Santa Monica Stake, and long-time member and officer in the Sons of Utah Pioneers. He explains the activity in this statement, "The fund required will approximate \$400. We are asking contributions of \$10 each, with the understanding that smaller contributions will be accepted.

"Here is a double privilege: (1) Giving to a valued historical treasure a mer-

ited place of display for the enlightenment of future generations, and (2) Having one's name among those who have made this possible.

During the annual SUP encampment President Burton M. Oliver visited Pioneer Village and made arrangements for the permanent placing of this unique desk. He also arranged for a plaque with the names of those who made the permanent placing of the desk at Pioneer Village possible.



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## POSTAL HISTORY MUSEUM PORTRAYS AMERICA

The nation's first permanent Postal History Museum — vividly portraying American postal development from Colonial days to the present — was officially opened Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1960.

The Postal History Museum, located on the first floor (Rooms 1412-1416) of the Post Office Department Building at 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., will be open to the public permanently without charge. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Postal History Museum is most easily reached by entering the Post Office Department Building via the side entrance off 13th Street. The new Museum is located near another major attraction of the Postal Service — the Philatelic Exhibition housed near by in Room 1315.

The Postal History Museum is expected to be a new and unusual historical attraction for local residents as well as the thousands of visitors that come to Washington each year. The museum portrays the progress of the United States Post Office from the early post riders of several centuries ago to the recent experiment with Missile Mail.

In the hallway just outside the Museum, the visitor first sees a Wells Fargo stage coach model, one-half the size of the original coaches which carried the mails between the remote western settlements in the latter half of the 19th century. In 1858, for example, the first transcontinental stage line — "Butterfield Overland Mail Co." — ran from Tipton, Missouri, to San Francisco, California, on a 25-day schedule. Some of the early stage lines were in existence as late as 1913.

The Wells Fargo model, used by Col. William "Buffalo Bill" Cody, one of the original Pony Express riders, in his Wild West Show, sets the scene for a tour through a chronological historic display of panels and cases depicting more than a century and a half of American Postal Service.

To the visitor's left, as he enters the Postal Museum, is a Colonial postmaster's desk used to sort and dispatch mail in the early period of American history. It is significant that the pigeonhole case used for sorting letters then is basically the same as currently used in all post offices until recently when modern mechanized

letter sorters were introduced as part of the department's mechanization program.

A pictorial display of the era, 1750 through the early 1800's, shows a "milestone" from the old Boston Post Road telling the distance to New York and has a picture of a mail sack used by Benjamin Franklin.

In nearby display cases are pen holders, quills, actual early letters and other products and tools used in Colonial days.

In a following section of the museum the development of river transportation for movement of the U. S. mails is portrayed. Included is a handsome model of an 1850 Mississippi steamboat, with the typical "U. S. Mail" printed on the side near the paddlewheel — signifying it was one of many mail carrying ships of the period.

As the visitor moves on, he sees a display case with numerous old firearms. This is the first of several displays devoted to one of the most colorful periods in postal history.

The story of the Overland Express Stages and the Pony Express is shown on the panels. Adjacent to the panels are a strong box, a Pony Express "mochilla" (a leather saddle cover with mail containers) and scores of other articles used by postal pioneers to help win the west.

The Pony Express era — April 3, 1860-October, 1861 — opened a notable Century of progress in the American postal service and electrified the nation by carrying letters 2,000 miles across the trackless American wilderness in ten days time.

Following the Pony Express, the Exhibition shows the advent of railway mail service, followed by a view of the first official test of a railroad post office car in 1864.

Later advancements of the "Iron Horse" and the role it played in speeding mail service are also related through pictures and artifacts.

The birth of rural free delivery in 1896, a major step in rendering postal service to over 22,000 families living in sparsely populated areas of the nation, is a feature of the museum. At present, 9,189,211 families are receiving rural service.

The development of airmail starting in 1918 when mail was first officially flown

from Washington to New York is shown. In its initial year 17,831 pounds of mail were carried by air; last year the total was 115,207,000 pounds.

A final exhibit climaxing the display tells the story of the first official mail delivery by guided missile on June 6, 1959, opening a path for further exploration of a new technique of communication — "Missile Mail."

Anyone may visit the Museum or Philatelic Exhibition during regular hours without making advance arrangements. Groups which wish guided tours, or visits at times other than regular hours, should communicate in advance by letter or telephone to: The Special Assistant to the Postmaster General, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C.



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Pony and rider carry the mails  
The man bent forward over his steed  
As if urging him to greater speed—  
Bolting across plains in lashing rains  
On, on they go through driving snow  
Of lofty mountains—and swinging free  
Sprint into a forest, darkly still,  
Where arrow-winged death lurks behind  
each tree.  
Then out on the opposite side they flash  
In a wild and exhilarant head-long dash  
To hold back Time and write History—  
Now weary hearts leap with elation great  
For this is to be a famous date,  
So meeting the rushing, roaring din  
Of a rocketing river and plunging in  
They recklessly fight the eddy's spin —  
Then thrusting forward, sweeping wide,  
In a last thundering, heart-pounding stride  
They hurtle down to the Frontier Town  
Into cheering glory and high renown—  
Oh, sweet to their ears is the accolade  
Now Time can resume—History is made!  
Horse and rider have ended their quest  
The Pony Express has reached the West.

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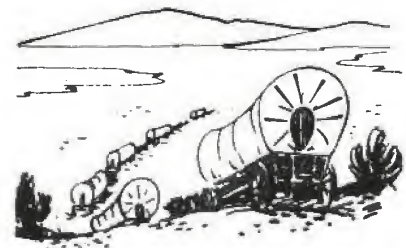
By Milton Bode

To thee, my master, I offer my prayer:  
"Feed me, water and care for me, and  
when the day's work is done, provide me  
with shelter, a clean dry bed, and a stall  
wide enough for me to lie down in com-  
fort. Talk to me. Your voice often means  
as much to me as the reins. Pet me some-  
times, that I may serve you the more  
gladly and learn to love you. Do not jerk  
the reins, and do not whip me when  
going up hill. Never strike, beat, or kick  
at me when I do not understand you,  
or what you mean, but give me a chance  
to understand you. Watch me, and if I  
fail to do your bidding, see if something  
is not wrong with my harness or feet.

"Examine my teeth when I do not  
eat; I may have an ulcerated tooth, and  
that, you know, is very painful. Do not tie  
my head in an unnatural position or take  
away my best defense against flies or  
mosquitoes by cutting off my tail.

"And finally, oh! my master, when  
my useful strength is gone do not turn  
me out to starve or freeze or sell me  
to some cruel owner, to be slowly tor-  
tured and starved to death; but do thou,  
my master, take my life in the kindest  
way, and your God will reward you here  
and hereafter.

"You may not consider me irreverent if  
I ask this in the name of Him who was  
born in a stable." Amen.



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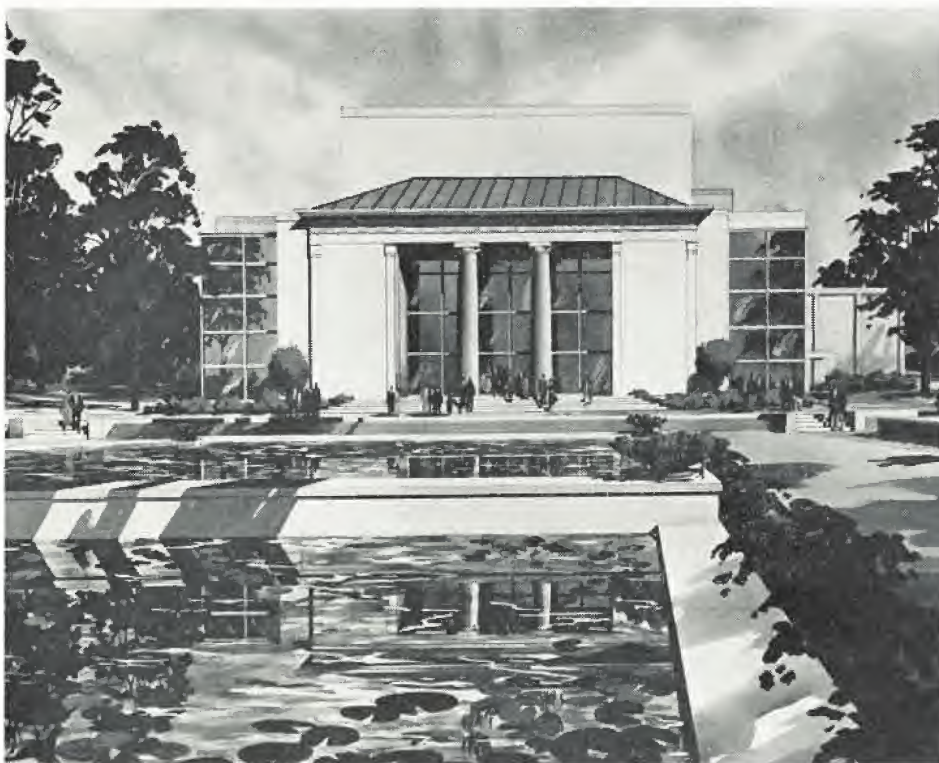
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Architect's drawing of new Pioneer Memorial Theatre at the University of Utah. Sons of Utah Pioneers are working to raise funds for its completion. Ground breaking ceremonies occurred in July under the direction of President David O. McKay and is due to be completed in March of 1962.

## PIONEER THEATRE PROJECT MOVES AHEAD

Descendants of Utah Pioneers are continuing to reserve seats in the Pioneer Memorial Theatre for their ancestors, it was reported to D. Crawford Houston, drive chairman, after a recent meeting with SUP, Church and University of Utah officials. While we still have much work ahead of us, all groups concerned with the drive feel confident that we will be able to complete the drive before the dedication of the Theatre in March of 1962.

It is of interest to note, said Mr. Houston, that many of the authorities of the LDS Church are not yet included among those who will be seated. We would certainly encourage descendants of those who have not reserved a plaque to make an effort to do so as soon as possible.

### *Pioneer General Authorities:*

Names indicated with an asterisk (\*) have been seated. It is hoped that the remainder of these Pioneer General Authorities will be memorialized by some

member of the SUP or the family descendants through their family associations.

Thomas B. Marsh  
David W. Patten  
Brigham Young  
\*Heber C. Kimball  
\*Orson Hyde  
William E. McLellin  
\*Parley P. Pratt  
Luke S. Johnson  
William B. Smith  
\*Orson Pratt  
John F. Boynton  
Lyman E. Johnson  
John E. Page  
\*John Taylor  
\*Wilford Woodruff  
\*George A. Smith  
\*Willard Richards  
Lyman Wight  
\*Amasa M. Lyman  
Ezra T. Benson  
\*Charles C. Rich  
\*Lorenzo Snow  
\*Erastus Snow  
\*Franklin D. Richards  
\*George Q. Cannon  
Joseph F. Smith  
Brigham Young, Jr.  
Albert Carrington  
Moses Thatcher  
\*Francis M. Lyman

John Henry Smith  
George Teasdale  
Heber J. Grant  
\*John W. Taylor  
Marriner W. Merrill  
Anthon H. Lund  
Abraham H. Cannon  
Matthias F. Cowley  
Abraham O. Woodruff  
Rudger Clawson  
Reed Smoot  
Hyrum Mack Smith  
George Albert Smith  
Charles W. Penrose  
George F. Richards  
Orson F. Whitney  
David O. McKay  
Anthony W. Ivins  
Hazen Aldrich  
Joseph Young  
Levi W. Hancock  
Zebedee Coldtrn  
Leonard Rich  
Lyman Sherman  
Sylvester Smith  
John Gould  
James Foster  
Josiah Butterfield  
Salmon Gee  
John Gaylord

Henry Harriman  
Zera Pulsipher  
\*Albert P. Rockwood  
Benjamin L. Clapp  
\*Jedediah M. Grant  
\*Horace S. Eldredge  
Jacob Gates  
John Van Cott  
William W. Taylor  
Abraham H. Cannon  
Seymour B. Young  
Christian D. Fjeldsted  
John Morgan  
Brigham H. Roberts  
George Reynolds  
J. Golden Kimball

Rulon S. Wells  
Edward Stevenson  
\*Jos. Wm. McMurrin  
Edward Partridge  
Newel K. Whitney  
Edward Hunter  
William B. Preston  
Leonard W. Hardy  
Isaac Morley  
Robert T. Burton  
Orrin P. Miller  
Titus Billings  
Jesse C. Little  
John Q. Cannon  
John R. Winder

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## Other entries included wagons, horses, stage coach, twirlers and Ki-Ann Indians

Other entries included the Pike's Peak Overland Stage, the famous 100 year old wagon of Johnston's army, also the Pony Express Centennial Float carried Grant Sullivan, star of the TV series "Pony Express." The Ki-Ann Indian Dancers and the Pony Express Twirlers were also our entries and a beautiful Indian head dress float honoring the Boy Scout 50th Anniversary won the acclaim of the thousands who saw it.

## It has been a busy year historically

The Pony Express Centennial added much interest and activity to a busy July 23rd and July 25th, welcoming the eastbound and westbound ponies of the re-run which was televised by KSL-TV, sponsored by South East Furniture.

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sponsored entries in days of  
 '47 - 1960 July 25th Parade

★ "They Sewed-We Reap" was the theme of the winning float showing statue of horse hitched to plough, driven by pioneer farmer as the wife sewed amidst sea gulls flying around, drawn by paint-ponies from the Village.

★ Float winning honorable mention was that of Russell, Majors and Waddell, founders of the historical Pony Express. This float was in two sections, the second being the Pony Express Statue sculptured by Dr. Avard Fairbanks from the Village.

